



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shana Jones or Daryl Fields
(210) 384-7452

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MARC MURR PLEADS GUILTY

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Texas attorney Marc Murr pled guilty to mail fraud stemming from a federal indictment charging him and former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales with fraud in their efforts to secure unearned attorney's fees related to the State's financial settlement with tobacco companies. Murr entered his plea this morning before United States Judge Sam Sparks in Austin, Texas.

Murr pled guilty to Count 9 of the March 6, 2003, indictment and by doing so, he admitted his participation in a scheme which made fraudulent representations and concealed material facts regarding legal work he alleges to have done in the tobacco case.

According to the plea agreement, Murr will serve a 6 month prison term as a condition of receiving 5 years supervised probation. The plea agreement does not address any fine that might be levied upon Mr. Murr by the court. He is scheduled to be sentenced at 9:00am on December 19, 2003.

Defendant Dan Morales pled guilty to Counts 9 and 11 of the same indictment earlier this year and will be sentenced on October 31, 2003. He faces up to 4 years in federal prison.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division. Assistant United States Attorneys Sharon Pierce, Jim Blankinship and John Phinizy are prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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